

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sunday School for all ages. Join us for breakfast at 9:30 a.m. [Preregister your kids here.](#)
- [Abundant Life - Women's Group](#) – access the abundant life that God promised us by taking care of our health. A group for women to share faith-based motivation, inspiration, and accountability for any of our health goals. Click the link for more information. The group is private.
- Create beautiful embroidery with other creators! Meetings once a month. Only \$35 / month for lessons. Contact Dot Leasure for more details.
- CROP Walk 5K walk on the Great Allegheny Passage on Sunday, October 10, 2021 @ 1:30 pm. Registration at the CBIZ Parking Lot. The walk supports hunger missions locally, around the country and the world. Fundraising has begun! You can donate and/or join the [LaVale United Team.](#)
- Cluster Church Conference will take place on October 11 @ 7p.m. The location is still to be determined as the District is prayerfully considering COVID safety and individual charge needs in the area. Thankfully, the administrative ministry of our churches continues, and we will rejoice in all that God has done in our churches and communities over the last year. God is good and we have been richly blessed, in spite of current circumstances.
- Local mission opportunity: [Maryland Poor People's Campaign: Western Region.](#) Join us! God helps those who can't help themselves.

Questions? Call the church office (301) 722-6800.

We'd like to thank all who are joining us virtually and on WCBC.

For those of you who are here in person we welcome you as well.

If it is a bit too crowded for you in here, this service is also live streamed to the fellowship hall downstairs. Handicap accessibility is available through the pantry entrance.

Our service is also live streamed in the parlor as well as in the nursery.

Our nursery is available for parents who would like to take their infant children there and pre-k is staffed for the toddlers.

Older kids we welcome to not just join but also to participate in worship. There are crayons and kids worship packs available as well. If you need one, please raise your hand and an usher will bring you one.

Welcome to worship.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Please rise)**

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?
We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.
Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?
We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.
Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?
We long to live lives of holiness and light.
God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask.
Come near, people of God!
Let us worship in wisdom and truth.

PRELUDE/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN** - Dear Jesus, in Whose Life I See

Verse 1

Dear Jesus, in whose life I see
all that I would, but fail to be,
let thy clear light forever shine,
to shame and guide this life of mine.

Verse 2

Though what I dream and what I do
in my weak days are always two,
help me, oppressed by things undone,
O thou whose deeds and dreams were one!

Words: John Hunter, 1889

Music: *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1744; adapt. from *Metric Psalter*, 1855

The Peace We So Desperately Crave

(Based on Psalm 1 and James 3:13-4:2)

Our Creator and sustainer, we confess that we are not always strong like the trees planted by the water's edge. Sometimes we are weak and indecisive. When the first big wind comes, we lean and break. We plot revenge instead of letting you fight our

battles. By our silence and busyness, we let wickedness and ugliness fester and flourish. Today Lord, forgive us when we covet and lie and when we get caught up in things that displease you. Heal us, direct our paths, and be for us the peace we so desperately crave. Amen.

Cynthia A. Bond Hopson, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B (Discipleship Resources, 2007)*, 160.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9:30-37

9:30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;

9:31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."

9:32 But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

9:33 Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"

9:34 But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.

9:35 He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

9:36 Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,

9:37 "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

SERMON – "Are We Asking the Right Questions?" Rev. Frankie Revell

OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, grant us the grace to be extravagant in the gifts we give to you. Help us be wise and just in how we live with the resources we keep. Guide us in the way to lives that bear the fruit that is pleasing to you: lives full of mercy and compassion. Free us from envy and selfish ambition that leads us away from you, that we might draw near to you. We pray in the love and hope that is Jesus, our Savior. Amen.
(James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a)

***CLOSING HYMN - Praise You**

Praise you, praise you
Let my life, praise you
Praise you, praise you
Let my life, O lord praise you

Lord I come to you today,
With a simple prayer to pray.
In everything I do,
Let my life O Lord praise you.

Praise you, praise you
Let my life, praise you
Praise you, praise you
Let my life, O lord praise you

Lord you formed me out of clay,
And for your glory I was made.
Use this vessel as you choose.
Let my life O Lord praise you

Praise you, praise you
Let my life, praise you
Praise you, praise you
Let my life, O lord praise you

CCLI Song # 863806

Elizabeth Goodine © 1992 New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 20095467

***BENEDICTION (Please Rise)**

A Prayer of Confession....

O God, we want to have our cake and eat it, too:
we want to be a friend of the world and still be your friend.

Yet, Jesus taught us: “No one can serve two masters.”

Give us strength and courage to get our priorities straight:
help us to seek your kingdom first.

Help us to live faithfully and joyfully in the world,
and to be friends with the people you call us to serve.

Help us also to remember that our best relationship
is the one we have with you,

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

(inspired by James 3:17)

“The wisdom from above is first pure,
then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield,
full of mercy and good fruits,
without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy” (James 3:17).

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,
and we are given a new way to live.

Let us accept God’s grace,
and live new lives of faith, obedience, and joy.

***POSTLUDE**

***DISMISSAL**